

Docket No.: BRXIOUS-5
Appl. No.: 10/721,517

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES
MADE, AND LISTING OF ALL CLAIMS WITH PROPER IDENTIFIERS**

1. (Currently amended) A transport system for articles, in particular containers for baggage pieces, comprising:

at least two conveyors disposed in vertically spaced-apart planes to define an upper conveyor and a lower conveyor;

an elevator having an elevator conveyor and movable in a vertical direction along a travel path between a lower end position in which the elevator conveyor is in alignment with the lower conveyor to form a lower transport path for transfer of articles ~~from~~ between the lower conveyor ~~to~~ and the elevator, and an upper end position in which the elevator conveyor is in alignment with the upper conveyor to form an upper transport path for transfer of articles ~~from~~ between the upper conveyor ~~to~~ and the elevator; and

a control unit to control the transfer of the articles from the upper and lower conveyors to the elevator and from the elevator to the upper and lower conveyors in dependence on a vertical position of the elevator, said control unit including a signaling assembly having a first signaling member ~~associated to one of the planes for indicating that~~ rendered operative to initiate movement of the elevator conveyor, when during movement from the lower end position to the upper end position the elevator has reached an upper trigger position which is defined in the travel path below an upper in relation to the one of the planes ~~plane during movement from the lower end~~

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~~position to the upper end position, and a second signaling member associated to the other rendered operative to initiate movement of the elevator conveyor, when during movement from the upper end position to the lower end position one of the planes for indicating that the elevator has reached a lower trigger position which is defined in the travel path above a lower one of the planes in relation to the other plane during movement from the upper end position to the lower end position.~~

2. (Currently amended) The transport system of claim 1, wherein each of the two upper and lower conveyors and the conveyor of the elevator includes an endless conveyor belt, and a drive motor for operating the conveyor belt.
3. (Original) The transport system of claim 1, wherein the first and second signaling members are configured as sensors.
4. (Original) The transport system of claim 1, wherein each of the sensors is constructed as a member selected from the group consisting of light barrier, light scanner, inductive sensor, mechanical sensor, and ultrasonic sensor.
5. (Canceled)
6. (Currently amended) The transport system of claim ~~[[5]]~~ 1, wherein the upper conveyor is rendered operative by the control unit ~~for moving the~~

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~~articles~~, when the elevator reaches the upper trigger position, and wherein the lower conveyor is rendered operative by the control unit ~~for moving the~~ articles, when the elevator reaches the lower trigger position.

7. (Currently amended) The transport system of claim ~~[[5]]~~ 6, wherein the control unit is constructed to initiate ~~the movement of the articles~~ operation of the upper and lower conveyors after elapse of a predetermined delay time.
8. (Currently amended) The transport system of claim 7, wherein the control unit is so constructed that the delay time is dependent on a ~~start-up~~ travel speed of the elevator.
9. (Currently amended) A method of transporting articles, in particular containers for baggage pieces, comprising the steps of:
 - providing an elevator with an elevator conveyor for movement along a travel path between a lower conveyor and an upper conveyor which are disposed in vertically spaced-apart ~~in a vertical direction~~ planes to thereby define a lower end position in which the elevator conveyor is in alignment with the lower conveyor to form a lower transport path for transfer of articles ~~from~~ between the lower conveyor ~~to~~ and the elevator, and an upper end position in which the elevator conveyor is in alignment with the upper conveyor to form an upper transport path for transfer of articles ~~from~~

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between the upper conveyor ~~to~~ and the elevator; and

controlling the transfer of the articles ~~from~~ between the upper and lower conveyors ~~to~~ and the elevator ~~and from the elevator to the conveyors~~ in dependence on a vertical position of the elevator in response to an ~~indication~~ a signal indicating that the elevator has reached an upper trigger position ~~in relation to the one plane~~ defined in the travel path below an upper one of the planes during movement from the lower end position to the upper end position, and in response to an ~~indication~~ a signal indicating that the elevator has reached a lower trigger position ~~in relation to the other plane~~ defined in the travel path above a lower one of the planes during movement from the upper end position to the lower end position, wherein the control unit initiates movement of the elevator conveyor, when the elevator reaches the upper and lower trigger positions.

10. (Currently amended) A method of transporting articles, in particular containers for baggage pieces, comprising the steps of:

providing an elevator which has an elevator conveyor and is movable along a travel path between a lower conveyor and an upper conveyor which are disposed in vertically spaced-apart planes ~~in a vertical direction~~ to thereby define a lower end position in which the elevator conveyor is in alignment with the lower conveyor to form a lower transport path for transfer of articles ~~from~~ between the lower conveyor ~~to~~ and the elevator, and an upper end position in which the elevator conveyor is in alignment with the

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upper conveyor to form an upper transport path for transfer of articles ~~from~~
between the upper conveyor ~~to~~ and the elevator; and

controlling the transfer of the articles ~~from~~ between the upper and
lower conveyors ~~to~~ and the elevator ~~and from the elevator to the conveyors~~
in dependence on a vertical position of the elevator by starting operation of
the elevator conveyor, when the elevator reaches an upper trigger position
defined in the travel path below an upper one of the planes during
movement from the lower end position to the upper end position, and by
starting operation of the elevator conveyor, when the elevator reaches a
lower trigger position defined in the travel path above a lower one of the
planes during movement from the upper end position to the lower end
position.

11. (Currently amended) A transport system for articles, in particular containers
for baggage pieces, comprising:

at least two conveyors disposed in vertically spaced-apart planes to
define an upper conveyor and a lower conveyor;

an elevator having an elevator conveyor and movable along a travel
path between a lower end position in which the elevator conveyor is in
alignment with the lower conveyor for transfer of articles ~~from~~ between the
lower conveyor ~~to~~ and the elevator, and an upper end position in which the
elevator conveyor is in alignment with the upper conveyor for transfer of
articles ~~from~~ between the upper conveyor ~~to~~ and the elevator;

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a control unit to control operation of the elevator; and

a signaling assembly instructing the control unit to operate the elevator conveyor, when the elevator passes during ascent to the upper end position a first predetermined trigger position ~~in advance of~~ before reaching the upper end position, and instructing the control unit to operate the elevator conveyor, when the elevator passes during descent to the lower end position a second predetermined trigger position ~~in advance of~~ before reaching the lower end position.

12. (Original) The transport system of claim 11, wherein the control unit initiates operation of the upper conveyor, when the elevator passes the first trigger position, and initiates operation of the lower conveyor, when the elevator passes the second trigger position.
13. (Currently amended) The transport system of claim 11, wherein the signaling assembly includes a first signaling member disposed in ~~vicinity of~~ the travel path of the elevator below the upper end position to define the first trigger position, and a second signaling member disposed in ~~vicinity of the~~ travel path of the elevator above the lower end position to define the second trigger position.